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Use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice

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Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report describes progress made in 2013 by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in supporting the use and application of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice. It outlines the development of new standards and norms and the Office's efforts to collect and analyse data, develop implementation tools and provide technical assistance at the global, regional and country levels. It also describes partnerships the Office has been involved in to promote coherent intervention in crime prevention and criminal justice reform.

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I. Introduction and overview of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice

1. Strengthened crime prevention and fair, humane and effective criminal justice systems are prerequisites for fighting transnational organized crime, drug trafficking, corruption and terrorism. During the reporting period, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) made significant progress in the development and promotion of the use and application of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice,[1] which cover the following areas: (a) persons in custody, non-custodial sanctions, juvenile justice and restorative justice; (b) crime prevention and victim issues; and (c) good governance, the independence of the judiciary and the integrity of criminal justice personnel. The standards and norms are also central to the work of the United Nations in the area of the rule of law and human rights, as they provide detailed guidance on various principles of human rights in the administration of justice.

2. In the current debates regarding the global development agenda beyond 2015, the work of UNODC in preventing crime and violence and supporting criminal justice systems has been highlighted as an essential contribution to development. In its resolution 68/188, the General Assembly underscored that the post-2015 development agenda should be guided by respect for and promotion of the rule of law, and that crime prevention and criminal justice have an important role in that regard. The need for integrating crime prevention and criminal justice into the wider United Nations agenda to address social and economic challenges and to promote the rule of law will be the focus of discussions at the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, to be held in Doha in 2015, in line with General Assembly resolutions 67/184 and 68/185.

3. The UNODC thematic programme on crime prevention and criminal justice reform, which is one of the five thematic programmes of UNODC,[2] focuses on assisting Member States in developing new instruments, strategies, policies and programmes for crime prevention and criminal justice reform. Support includes advocacy, research, legislative and legal support, norm-setting and technical assistance. The thematic programme is currently implemented in over 40 countries in all regions of the world through regional and country programmes and projects, as well as through a global project, covering the period 2012-2015 and in line with the mid-term strategy and the strategic framework for UNODC for that period.

4. The global project on support for crime prevention and criminal justice reform[3] attracted increased funding in 2013 from a wider variety of donors and covered considerably more outputs, as well as a number of additional countries. Those outputs covered all areas of the thematic programme on crime prevention and criminal justice. All of the normative activities, most of the tool-development

[1] The *Compendium of United Nations Standards and Norms in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice* is available at www.unodc.org/unodc/en/justice-and-prison-reform/compendium.html.

[2] The four other thematic programmes of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime cover the following areas: prevention of drug abuse and health; organized crime and illicit trafficking; corruption and economic crime; and prevention of terrorism.

[3] Project GLOT63.

activities and several of the technical assistance activities mentioned in the present report took place under that global project.

II. Setting the standards

5. During the reporting period, UNODC continued supporting Member States in setting global standards in the areas of treatment of prisoners, violence against children and gender-related killing of women and girls.

6. In December 2013, the General Assembly, in its resolution 68/190, decided to extend the mandate of the open-ended intergovernmental Expert Group on the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, authorizing it to continue its work within its mandate with a view to reporting to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twenty-third session. Written inputs were provided by 32 Member States in advance of the meeting.[4] At the time of the preparation of the present report, the third meeting of the Expert Group was in the process of being scheduled; should it be held in time, the report on that meeting will be made available to the Commission at its twenty-third session in document E/CN.15/2014/19.

7. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 68/189, UNODC convened a meeting of an open-ended intergovernmental expert group to develop a draft set of model strategies and practical measures on the elimination of violence against children in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice. A working paper prepared by the Secretariat[5] focused on: (a) prohibiting violence against children, implementing broad prevention measures and promoting research and data collection, (b) enhancing the ability and capacity of the criminal justice system to respond to violence against children and protect child victims and (c) preventing and responding to violence against children within the justice system. At the invitation of the Government of Thailand, the meeting was held in Bangkok from 18 to 21 February 2014. The report of the Secretariat on the outcome of the expert group meeting will be before the Commission (E/CN.15/2014/14).

8. In December 2013, the General Assembly also adopted resolution 68/191, in which it requested the Secretary-General to convene an open-ended intergovernmental expert group meeting to discuss ways and means to more effectively prevent, investigate, prosecute and punish gender-related killing of women and girls, with a view to making practical recommendations, drawing on current best practices, in consultation with relevant United Nations entities and human rights mechanisms. The Assembly welcomed the offer of the Government of Thailand to act as host to the meeting, which is planned to be held in Bangkok in November 2014. A report of the Secretariat on the outcome of the expert group meeting will be before the Commission at its twenty-fourth session, in 2015.

[4] Available at www.unodc.org/unodc/en/justice-and-prison-reform/expert-group-meetings6.html.

[5] Available at www.unodc.org/documents/justice-and-prison-reform/IEGM_VAC_BKK/Draft_Model_Strategies.pdf.

III. Analysing trends

9. The standards and norms underline the importance of empirical evidence for effective crime prevention and criminal justice administration. UNODC collects and analyses statistical data from Member States, develops statistical standards to improve data quality and provides technical support to enhance national capacities to produce and analyse data.

10. In 2013, UNODC continued to collect data on selected crimes and on the operation of justice systems through the United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems. The network of national focal points to coordinate national responses to the Survey was further extended (covering more than 110 countries), which had a positive impact on the response rate. Data collected through the Survey are regularly published on the UNODC website to facilitate access for a broad range of users. In June 2013, UNODC released an update of the data set on intentional homicide, containing comprehensive homicide data from 207 countries and territories.[6]

11. In order to improve crime statistics in a coordinated and comprehensive manner, UNODC developed — jointly with the National Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico (INEGI) — a road map to improve the quality and availability of crime statistics at the national and international levels (E/CN.3/2013/11). That document, wide-ranging in scope and with a long-term perspective, identified concrete areas of work for strengthening methodological standards on crime statistics, supporting countries' capacities and improving international data on and analyses of crime. The road map was discussed by the United Nations Statistical Commission and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at their 2013 sessions. Upon the recommendation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 2013/37, in which it requested UNODC to continue activities to improve statistical information on crime in accordance with the road map and approved the plan to finalize by 2015 an international classification of crime for statistical purposes.[7]

12. UNODC made considerable progress in developing the international classification of crime for statistical purposes, which is expected to become a major tool for improving the accuracy, consistency and comparability of statistics on crime and the criminal justice system, once finalized and implemented by Member States. Standardized concepts and classification schemes will increase the analytical power of data on crime trends and patterns.

13. UNODC continued to provide technical support to countries implementing surveys and studies on a number of crime issues, including on corruption, crime victimization, access to justice and accessibility of firearms. UNODC is leading an initiative, jointly with the UNODC/INEGI Centre of Excellence for Statistical Information on Governance, Public Security, Victimization and Justice and the Inter-American Development Bank, to develop a common methodology for the conduct of victimization surveys in Latin America and the Caribbean.

[6] Available at www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/homicide.html.

[7] See also E/CN.15/2014/10.

14. Surveys and other crime data-collection tools are increasingly being used to develop baselines for UNODC technical assistance in countries and to measure the impact and progress of such programmes.

IV. Developing tools and providing guidance

15. During the reporting period, UNODC continued developing handbooks, training curricula and guidance notes to support technical assistance in various areas of crime prevention and criminal justice.[8] The translation of existing tools into different languages continued, making them available to a larger audience. The Office also continued to disseminate the standards and norms and to promote their use and application by organizing and participating in workshops in different regions.

16. In the area of crime prevention, UNODC hosted an expert meeting in July 2013 to develop an introductory handbook on the regulation and oversight of civilian private security services. The handbook outlines relevant international instruments, standards and norms, as well as practices of States in that area.

17. In the area of victim support and protection, UNODC convened an expert meeting in Vienna in December 2013 to review a draft handbook and training modules on justice for victims of crime and abuse of power, with the participation of other United Nations agencies, academics, national agencies and international and national non-governmental organizations providing services to victims.

18. With respect to violence against women and girls, UNODC, in cooperation with the Thailand Institute of Justice and in consultation with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), developed a handbook for prosecutors dealing with cases of violence against women and girls and an implementation action plan for criminal justice systems to prevent and respond to violence against women, to assist countries in using and applying at the national level the recommendations contained in the updated Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Women in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.[9] In line with its new guidance note on gender mainstreaming, the Office is promoting a gender perspective in its criminal justice reform work, addressing the situation of women as victims, offenders and criminal justice professionals.

19. On access to legal aid, UNODC finalized its handbook for policymakers and practitioners on early access to legal aid in criminal justice processes, developed jointly with UNDP and in consultation with the Open Society Justice Initiative, to be launched in March 2014 at a global conference on legal aid. Pilot programmes are being developed jointly with UNDP to promote its practical use in selected countries. The Office also produced a booklet containing the new United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems,

[8] Available at www.unodc.org/unodc/en/justice-and-prison-reform/tools.html.

[9] General Assembly resolution 65/228, annex.

which is being disseminated through UNODC field offices and at regional and national events.

20. In the area of prison reform and alternatives to imprisonment, in October 2013 UNODC published the *Handbook on Strategies to Reduce Overcrowding in Prisons*, developed in cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross. UNODC cooperated with a number of United Nations agencies, including the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the United Nations Office for Project Services on prison reform-related publications and checklists.

21. In the area of justice for children, the Office published *Justice in Matters Involving Children in Conflict with the Law: Model Law on Juvenile Justice and Related Commentary* and developed modules for the training of trainers on the treatment of child victims and witnesses of crime, with a focus on sexual exploitation of children.

V. Providing sustained technical assistance

A. Africa

22. In East Africa, UNODC provided technical assistance to Ethiopia, Kenya, Mauritius,[10] Seychelles, Somalia and the United Republic of Tanzania, in support of national criminal justice systems, through its regional programme[11] and its maritime crime programme.[12] Measures focused on reforming the entire criminal justice chain, through police reform and capacity-building for law enforcement, prosecution, courts and prisons, in order to ensure fair and efficient trials and secure and humane imprisonment.

23. In Somalia,[13] UNODC implemented prison reform activities in Mogadishu and Garowe. Under its piracy prisoner transfer programme, the Office improved prison conditions in Somaliland and Puntland, enabling the transfer of over 60 convicted pirates so far to serve their sentences in prisons meeting international standards. The Office also assisted victims of piracy, including hostages in captivity and those released, by providing medical care, clothing and sanitation and facilitating contact with families and embassies and repatriation. Guidelines on the treatment of alleged child pirates captured off the coast of Somalia, in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, are being developed.

24. UNODC provided advice and assistance to the Ministry of Justice and the Attorney General's Office in the region of Somaliland. On the basis of an analysis of the current framework for legal aid providers and of the capacities of lawyers and paralegals, UNODC conducted capacity-building and mentoring programmes for legal aid providers. New handbooks and manuals for legal practitioners and the Somaliland Police were developed, in accordance with applicable national legislation and international standards and best practices, to strengthen the skills and professionalism of justice officials. Training on law, procedure and investigative

[10] Project MUSX55.
[11] Project XEAU78.
[12] Projects XAMT72, XEAX20 and XAMX74.
[13] Projects SOMX54 and SOMZ15.

practice was provided to prosecutors, police trainers and police students. The Office also continued developing a litigants' charter for court users and citizens in general and supported authorities in Somaliland in drafting a national sentencing policy framework and sentencing guidelines. It conducted a joint assessment with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) of the implementation of the Juvenile Act.

25. In Ethiopia, UNODC started implementing the national integrated programme for Ethiopia, including the subprogramme on criminal justice.[14] It assisted and provided expertise to the Government of Ethiopia in developing an effective and responsible national crime prevention strategy and action plan and building the capacity of the criminal justice system to operate more effectively within the framework of the rule of law, while promoting human rights and protecting vulnerable groups.

26. In Kenya, a major police reform programme was launched to support the Government in its effort to transform the National Police Service into an effective, efficient, accountable and trusted institution for Kenyans.[15] UNODC developed an operational manual for investigators of the independent policing oversight authority to strengthen its capacity to conduct sound investigations in accordance with international human rights norms. A UNODC report on alternatives to imprisonment and the social reintegration of offenders in Kenya was launched and discussed with relevant counterparts to support the Government of Kenya in the development of a comprehensive prison reform strategy.

27. In South Sudan, the ongoing prison reform programme,[16] implemented in cooperation with the United Nations Mission in South Sudan, entered into a new phase,[17] with a focus on expanding prison facilities, improving literacy skills among prison staff, expanding probation and aftercare across the country and improving prisoner nutrition. UNODC also advocated the wider use and a wider scope of alternative measures for children in conflict with the law and finalized a proposal on supporting national efforts to build a functional juvenile justice system in line with international standards.

28. In West Africa, UNODC started developing crime prevention and criminal justice responses to the increase in piracy and armed robbery in the Gulf of Guinea. Concrete measures included the development of a strategy in relation to piracy, armed robbery against vessels and maritime crime in the Gulf of Guinea region and a workshop for legal and law enforcement officials, held in December 2013.

29. As part of the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel, UNODC has developed a strategic framework to, inter alia, strengthen the capacity of West African countries in the Sahel region to develop fair, accessible, efficient and accountable criminal justice systems in order to effectively combat drug trafficking, organized crime, terrorism and corruption in the region.

30. In Cabo Verde, UNODC started implementing a joint programme with UNICEF and advised the Government on a number of issues related to justice for

[14] Project ETHX97.
[15] Project KENZ04.
[16] Project SDNX06.
[17] Project SSDX98.

children, including on the development of a juvenile justice information management system.

31. In Liberia, UNODC started implementing a project to support the Office of the Public Defender in ensuring access to justice for indigent clients.[18] Planned activities include the development and delivery of basic skills training for public defenders and the strengthening of the Office of the Public Defender through practical workshops on professional standards and on cooperation and coordination with other criminal justice actors and civil society organizations. Another key component is a fellowship programme for law students to receive training in international law, teach community workshops and serve as interns in the Office of the Public Defender. The project is expected to be followed by a mentoring scheme.

32. In Mauritania, UNODC concluded its programme for building capacity in the areas of crime prevention and the rule of law,[19] through which community justice mechanisms were established to promote mediation.

33. In the Niger, UNODC undertook a prison reform needs assessment in November 2013, focusing on the specific problems affecting the country's prison administration, and held discussions with national counterparts on possible interventions.

34. In Nigeria, UNODC continued its criminal justice reform programme[20] by partnering with the Nigerian Law Reform Commission to develop sentencing guidelines that include templates for corruption cases, sexual offences and non-custodial sanctions. The judiciary participated actively in the process, and chief judges agreed to introduce the guidelines to magistrates and other judges. In cooperation with the national association of prosecutors, the Office finalized a national policy on prosecution, guidelines and a code of conduct for prosecutors. The code of conduct was signed by the Attorney General of Nigeria, and the policy and guidelines will be presented to the Body of Attorney Generals for adoption in 2014. In the area of juvenile justice, technical advice was provided to the Government, in cooperation with UNICEF.

35. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, UNDP, the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and UNODC started the implementation of a multi-year joint United Nations justice support programme in order to develop the criminal justice institutions and processes, the police, the judiciary and prisons.

36. In Southern Africa, UNODC is implementing a project on gender-based violence and empowerment of victims in partnership with the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Gender Unit and the Southern African Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization, in the framework of the joint UNODC/SADC regional programme.[21] A situational assessment on gender-based violence in Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia and Swaziland supported national strategic planning efforts. A regional train-the-trainer workshop on gender-based violence enhanced the capacity for peer training and was attended by participants

[18] Project LBRZ21.
[19] Project MRTT66.
[20] Project NGAV18.
[21] Project XASV23.

from Angola, Mauritius, Seychelles and the United Republic of Tanzania. Through advocacy, legislative and policy assistance, as well as the refurbishment of selected prison health facilities,[22] UNODC contributed to the improvement of prison conditions in Southern Africa so that they would be in conformity with United Nations standards and norms.

37. In South Africa, UNODC achieved increased community awareness of gender-based violence and enhanced support, treatment and counselling for survivors of such violence through the establishment of one-stop centres to counteract violence against women in Pretoria and Vryburg.[23]

B. Asia

38. In East Asia and the Pacific, UNODC conducted regional crime prevention and criminal justice reform activities. In February 2013, the Office organized a regional meeting on the implementation of the Bangkok Rules and an Association of Southeast Asian Nations expert meeting on the development of relevant training modules, in cooperation with the Thailand Institute of Justice. Training modules for prison staff, judges and prosecutors are currently being developed. In July 2013, UNODC together with UNDP, organized a high-level judicial integrity expert group meeting for the Asia-Pacific region to discuss a draft guide for the implementation of article 11 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and United Nations standards and norms on judicial integrity.

39. In Indonesia, UNODC continued to strengthen judicial integrity and capacity.[24] The Office conducted an international workshop on judicial integrity-based reform and supported judicial reform by providing technical assistance in developing an education programme for candidate judges, as well as in institutional development by providing training analysis and pilot training for the public communication department of the Supreme Court. The implementation of court transparency in 11 provinces of Indonesia was reviewed. UNODC also supported external oversight by working closely with the Judicial Commission and the judicial watch network, a non-governmental organization network that conducts anti-corruption campaigns in nine provinces of Indonesia, delivers advocacy for victims of judicial corruption and offers capacity-building in court monitoring.

40. In Myanmar, UNODC developed a country programme in which crime prevention and criminal justice reform are an important priority. The Office started training and advisory services for the national police force, based on an assessment of its organizational structures, operational size and training regimes, with the aim of providing better assistance and coordination of international assistance for police reform in the country.

41. In Viet Nam, UNODC worked under the "One UN" framework to promote crime prevention and criminal justice initiatives, with a focus on women and

[22] Project XSSV02.

[23] Project ZAFS15, an independent evaluation of which is available at www.unodc.org/documents/evaluation/Independent_Project_Evaluations/2013/Final_Evaluation_ZAFS15_19JUNE2013.pdf.

[24] Project IDNX27.

children in contact with the law.[25] In addition to the ongoing project against domestic violence in Viet Nam, UNODC is cooperating with UN-Women in a joint assessment of the situation of women in the national criminal justice system, to identify gaps and priority areas for cooperation. UNODC also supported the drafting of the Penal Code and Criminal Procedure Code in relation to sexual abuse of children and provisions on child victim/witness protection, in the framework of the Viet Nam National Assembly Legislative Programme (2012-2015). The Office completed a police training curriculum on investigating the sexual exploitation of children for front-line officials and specialist investigators. UNODC also conducted training for police trainers to enhance the protection of the rights of children in conflict with the law.

42. Under its regional programme for South Asia (2013-2015), launched in May 2013, UNODC conducted a number of crime prevention and criminal justice activities. In India, the Office participated in the National Conference of Correctional Administrators and facilitated a session at the 33rd Asian and Pacific Conference of Correctional Administrators. In the context of its regional project on drugs and HIV prevention in prisons, UNODC focused on the needs of female prisoners and established a strong foundation for work on a larger prison reform agenda. UNODC also supported efforts to address violence against women in India and to enhance justice for children, as a member of the South Asia Coordination Group on Action against Violence against Children and the South Asian Initiative to End Violence against Children.

43. With a view to providing support for criminal justice reform in Central Asia, UNODC produced a training film on interviewing vulnerable witnesses and disseminated it to law enforcement agencies and training centres in the region, receiving positive feedback. Available in the English, Russian, Tajik and Uzbek languages, that training tool serves to enhance the understanding and interview skills of investigators and prosecutors dealing with vulnerable victims. UNODC also promoted the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems by participating in a regional workshop on access to justice, which was also attended by representatives from Central and Eastern Europe.

44. In Afghanistan, UNODC made a difference in terms of increased coordination of justice agencies in some locations and an increased number of open trials, as well as in improving conditions for prisoners, particularly women and children.[26] Under its country programme (2012-2014),[27] UNODC provided legal training for 480 judges, prosecutors and attorneys from the Bamyan, Mazar and Herat regions, focusing on, among other things, the protection of victims and witnesses. A legal awareness campaign was conducted in the provinces of Bamyan and Mazar to promote the right to a fair trial, non-discrimination and gender equality. At the Kabul Juvenile Rehabilitation Center, UNODC provided vocational training workshops and psychosocial services, in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice and a local non-governmental organization. The Office is currently constructing

[25] Project VNMT28.

[26] Projects AFG/T03, AFG/R87 and AFG/R86, an independent evaluation of which is available at www.unodc.org/documents/evaluation/Independent_Project_Evaluations/2013/AFG_Cluster/03_Project_Cluster_Evaluation_Afghanistan_Criminal_Justice_Cluster_JULY2013.pdf.

[27] Project AFGK62.

three judicial and court facilities in Bamyan, Ghorian district and Hiaratan district, to be completed in 2014.

45. In Kyrgyzstan,[28] UNODC increased the scope of its technical assistance to enhance multi-agency coordination and policy development on crime prevention and criminal justice, in addition to improving prison management and the social reintegration of offenders. UNODC efforts to help bring criminal legislation in line with United Nations standards and norms have so far resulted in the adoption of 6 laws, 25 government decrees and over 100 internal prison service orders. UNODC conducted pilot activities to improve the integrity and transparency of two police stations in the provinces of Jalalabad and Batken, supporting the implementation of the new national police reform strategy. A scoping mission undertaken in January 2014 gathered information on the implementation of the Law on Crime Prevention and existing initiatives and recommended a pilot project for the city of Jalalabad. UNODC completed a prison refurbishment programme that improved sanitary conditions for approximately 3,000 prisoners (half of the overall prison population) and 400 prison staff. Further achievements included the expansion of the prison service training centre curriculum by adding eight training modules, on such subjects as prison management; the establishment of a new State enterprise under the prison service to manage and develop prison income-generating activities; a review of security arrangements in prisons with a view to a future national prison security framework; and stronger internal and external prison oversight through the monitoring of disciplinary measures, with the involvement of national human rights institutions and other oversight bodies.

46. In Pakistan, UNODC provided criminal justice reform assistance through its country programme,[29] focusing on police reform, prosecution services and prison reform. Specific measures focused on enhancing the forensic investigation capacity, cooperation between the police and prosecutors, training for prison managers and staff, and updates to the regulatory framework of the prison administration.

47. In Georgia, UNODC participated in an inter-agency prison assessment requested by the Government, focusing on compliance with international standards and norms concerning prison management and the treatment of prisoners.

C. Latin America and the Caribbean

48. In Latin America and the Caribbean, UNODC continued support through its Regional Office for Central America and the Caribbean[30] and the centre of excellence on prison reform and drug demand reduction based in the Dominican Republic.[31] The centre of excellence organized a number of training courses and regional meetings. In the context of the Central American Integration System security strategy for Central America, the centre is designing a regional penitentiary model.

[28] Project KGZT90.
[29] Project PAKU84.
[30] Project PANV28.
[31] Project DOMV07.

49. UNODC promoted the Bangkok Rules among the public defenders of the region at a regional meeting of public defenders in San José.[32] In St. Lucia in March 2013, UNODC conducted a training event on juvenile justice information management systems, jointly with UNICEF and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, which was attended by representatives from 12 Caribbean States. The Office also supported a qualitative study on the profile of youth gangs in Saint Lucia.

50. In the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the Office completed a project on restorative juvenile justice,[33] which produced a number of studies and pilot tests at the Qalauma rehabilitation centre in La Paz. Results include inputs to the draft code of criminal procedure and the juvenile criminal justice bill, increased awareness of issues related to restorative justice and children in detention among justice officials, and the development of an action plan for adolescents and young people in detention, developed on the basis of a restorative justice perspective. The Office also supported an evaluation of the community policing model and assisted the municipal government of La Paz in identifying best practices in crime prevention. It also implemented an information strategy to raise awareness about crime prevention in a district of La Paz.

51. In Brazil,[34] the Office continued to implement the "Expressive youth" programme in partnership with communities and with the support of the private sector. New initiatives include activities directed at girls and young women in vulnerable communities and the exchange of experiences nationally and internationally.

52. In Colombia,[35] UNODC made progress in implementing local safety audits, which identified the dynamics of citizen security in the cities of Medellín and Caucasia, and supported the formulation of local plans for citizen coexistence and security. UNODC designed a methodology for formulating, and a draft handbook on monitoring and evaluating, those security plans. A pilot workshop was implemented in the city of Pereira, to be followed in 2014 by the development of 13 security plans and the provision of technical assistance to 32 departments nationwide. The Office also trained police, prosecutors and judges in restorative justice for children and developed a programme, together with the National Institute on Youth and Family to promote the application of restorative justice principles in cases of children in contact with the law, to be implemented in the municipalities of Cali, Manizales, Armenia, Barranquilla and Pereira.

53. In Ecuador and Peru, UNODC published a compilation of jurisprudence related to juvenile justice and continued to provide policy and legal advice to the Governments of those countries in that field.

54. In Mexico,[36] UNODC participated in various consultative processes to design national laws and programmes, providing input on the issues of juvenile justice, restorative justice, alternative justice, attention to victims, violence against women,

[32] See www.unodc.org/ropan/en/IndexArticles/PrisonReform/prison-reform-meeting-in-costa-rica.html.

[33] Project GLOT63.

[34] Projects BRAT83 and BRAX16.

[35] Projects COLU99 and GLOT63.

[36] Projects MEXT99, MEXX13, MEXV27 and MEXZ14.

access to justice and police reform. At the state level, the Office is assisting the government of the State of Nuevo León in improving the capacity of its municipalities for designing and implementing local initiatives to develop family skills and thus reduce risk factors such as drug abuse, domestic violence and violence against women and children. In the State of Durango, UNODC is supporting government initiatives to develop gender-differentiated strategies to respond at the local level to violence against women and family violence, including training for police and public institutions, the strengthening of referral networks for cases of violence against women, and legal assistance to incorporate national and international standards. The Office also provided advice to Mexico City's Legislative Assembly to ensure compliance with the standards and norms of a bill on local penitentiary system reform.

55. In Panama, UNODC concluded a project to improve citizen security[37] and continued implementing its projects on prison reform,[38] with the objective of developing a comprehensive reform strategy for the humanization of prison conditions and the professionalization of prison staff. The Office strengthened the Prison Training Academy, improved living conditions for women prisoners and strengthened the provision of educational, labour and productive activities for prisoners. In coordination with the Inter-American Development Bank, UNODC is implementing parts of the new security cooperation programme for Panama, funded by the European Union, focusing on prison reform and strengthening the public prosecution service.

56. Within the framework of its Integrated National Programme for Paraguay,[39] UNODC made progress in enhancing criminal prosecution capabilities by developing specialized courses for public prosecutors and conducting training of trainers. It also held a national workshop with the Supreme Court, focusing on the accusatory system and the development of specialized capacities within the criminal justice system.

D. North Africa and the Middle East

57. Crime prevention and criminal justice constitute an essential pillar of the Regional Programme on Drug Control, Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Reform in the Arab States for the period 2011-2015. In this context,[40] UNODC provides technical assistance at the regional and national levels, taking into account the impact of the Syria crisis and other conflicts in the region. In Egypt, UNODC provided advice on juvenile justice and contributed to the socioeconomic reintegration of 500 released children and youth enrolled in a programme to prepare them for reintegration, established by UNODC in coordination with civil society organizations inside a detention centre.[41] Other planned workshops and consultations in the fields of community policing, crime prevention, prison management, criminal investigation and detention could not be carried out, owing to

[37] Project PANU73.
[38] Projects PANT37 and PANX12.
[39] Project PRYX68.
[40] Project XAMV12.
[41] Project EGYT47.

the continued political unrest. However, UNODC held a consultative workshop on action against violence against women in December 2013, jointly with the Ministry of Justice and with the participation of the Ministry of Interior, to conduct high-level consultations and a review of best practices with a view to developing a national action plan.

58. In Jordan, UNODC completed its project to support the juvenile justice system.[42] The project contributed to the establishment of a protective environment in nine courts throughout the country through the provision of closed-circuit television systems and the development of a specialized curriculum and training manual on juvenile justice, both to be used during the instruction of judges and students at the judicial training institute. UNODC supported the increased investigation capacity and equipment supply of law enforcement units responsible for security in the Za'atari refugee camp,[43] in order to facilitate the adoption of community policing approaches, increase the number of female police officers and better deal with sensitive cases, including by interviewing and supporting victims of sexual and gender-based violence and lost children. Under a new project to enhance the protection of citizens, including children in contact or conflict with the law, UNODC aims at strengthening the working methods of the Jordanian Public Security Directorate, with a focus on building the capacity of the new Juvenile Police Department and the Criminal Investigations Department and on strengthening and institutionalizing effective investigation and prosecution practices and procedures, with due respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. Together with UNDP, the Office organized a high-level workshop to strengthen the integrity of judges and prosecutors while safeguarding judicial independence, in line with a draft guide for the implementation of article 11 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and United Nations standards and norms on judicial integrity.

59. In Lebanon, UNODC continued implementing a penal reform programme to facilitate the transfer of the prison administration from the Ministry of Interior to the Ministry of Justice.[44] The implementation of a data management system provided the authorities with a comprehensive overview of the prison situation and population, enabling it to adopt strategies to deal with gaps and challenges. UNODC also supported the establishment of procedures regarding prisoners' complaints and income-generating activities to enable rehabilitation and reintegration. The Office also responded to the challenges deriving from the influx of Syrian refugees, including a significant increase in the number of Syrians among the prison population. UNODC provided health kits and psychological support to vulnerable detainees, especially children and young adults, liaised with their families and facilitated their reintegration after release.

60. In Libya, UNODC continued implementing a project to support criminal justice reform.[45] The Office also supported the efforts of the General Prosecutor's Office to promote fair trials and finalized a workplan, endorsed by the Government, for new activities on juvenile justice. UNODC also participated in the development

[42] Project JORT36.
[43] Project GLOT63.
[44] Project LBNT94.
[45] Project LBYS66.

and implementation of a country support plan by the global focal point for police, justice and corrections.

61. In the State of Palestine, UNODC concluded its project to strengthen the management of the Palestinian penitentiary system and the rehabilitation of inmates, which facilitated and improved the management of correction and rehabilitation centres and resulted in improved compliance with regulatory frameworks through enhanced management, training and outreach.[46]

62. In Tunisia, UNODC started implementing a project to promote human rights and the rule of law by strengthening the capacity of the Government to reform the police and promote judicial capacity and integrity.[47] A workplan was validated with national counterparts, and initial self-assessment and advisory services were provided to the Internal Security Forces, the National Guard, the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Justice.

63. In Iraq, UNODC implemented the preparatory programme on strengthening the management and operation of prisons administered by the Iraqi Corrections Service. Activities included the convening of two workshops, in Amman in April and October 2013, focusing on the assessment and classification of prisoners, and a workshop on special categories of prisoners, in Baghdad in January 2014.

64. In Yemen, a national strategy on drug control, crime prevention and criminal justice reform, developed with the support of UNODC and containing a strong criminal justice pillar, was adopted by the Government in late 2013.

VI. Partnerships

65. As described above, UNODC has been developing tools and delivering technical assistance projects in partnership with a wide variety of international and local governmental and non-governmental organizations.

66. UNODC is moreover an active member of the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group of the Secretariat,[48] which aims at ensuring effective and coherent United Nations rule of law efforts in line with the aspirations of national and international partners. Through the Coordination and Resource Group, UNODC has participated in the drafting of documents such as the UN-Women report on access to justice and the Secretary General's guidance note on reparations for conflict-related sexual violence, as well as reports on the rule of law, justice and security in the post-2015 development agenda. The Office participated in an event on regional

[46] Project PSEX21, an independent evaluation of which is available at www.unodc.org/documents/evaluation/Independent_Project_Evaluations/2013/PSEX21_final_evaluation_report_27NOV2013.pdf.

[47] Project TUNX80.

[48] Members of the Group are the principals of the Department of Political Affairs, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Office of Legal Affairs, the United Nations Development Programme, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

organizations, the rule of law and constitutional governance, organized by the Coordination and Resource Group.

67. UNODC also actively participated in the work of the global focal point for the police, justice and corrections in post-conflict and other crisis situations, in relation to joint missions, planning or programming in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Libya, Mali, Myanmar, Somalia and Yemen, as well as strategic and operational discussions at headquarters. Led by UNDP and the Department for Peacekeeping Operations, in partnership with OHCHR, UN-Women and UNODC, the global focal point was established to ensure highest-quality support for United Nations country presences in mission and non-mission settings, and UNODC is supporting the efforts for unified United Nations rule of law strategies and assistance in such countries. UNODC also participates actively in the Global Forum on Law, Justice and Development, set up by the World Bank, in particular in its Thematic Working Group on Justice and Rule of Law Reform. The Global Forum seeks to promote a better understanding of the role of law and justice and to better integrate legal and judicial institutions in the development process, through selected capacity-building initiatives and an open repository of knowledge.

68. UNODC is also part of United Nations coordination mechanisms aimed at improving the effectiveness of the system-wide response to violence against women, such as the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality and the United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict. In March 2013, the Executive Director took part in the latter's campaign against rape. UNODC also worked with the World Health Organization (WHO) to develop a medical/legal toolkit for practitioners on sexual violence in conflict and attended an expert group meeting for that purpose in April 2013.

69. In the area of crime prevention, UNODC continued cooperation with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme on developing United Nations guidelines for safer cities, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 68/188. The Office contributed to the UNDP *Regional Human Development Report 2013-2014* for Latin America,[49] focusing on the problems of crime and violence in the region, and providing recommendations for improving public policies on citizen security. UNODC also provided input for the development of WHO guidelines on the prevention of youth violence. The Office supported the preparation of a report on crime prevention, to be submitted to the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, by the standing committee for crime prevention under the auspices of the United Nations Latin American Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders.

70. In the area of police reform, strong partners are the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), UNDP, the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, the Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights and the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces. In April 2013, UNODC organized with OSCE and the Geneva Academy an expert meeting on the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials. The resulting report highlighted the

[49] Available at www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/hdr/human-development-report-for-latin-america-2013-2014/.

continued relevance of the Basic Principles and the need to review their implementation, as well as good practices and challenges at the regional level.

71. In the area of prison reform, UNODC provided extensive substantive support to the Department for Peacekeeping Operations in the drafting of a checklist for first responders in post-conflict settings to evaluate prisons against international standards. The Office also cooperated with the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment in relation to the ongoing revision of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners. UNODC partnered with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law to draft two training modules on the Bangkok Rules, for prison staff and for the judiciary and prosecutors, and with the Council of Europe's European Programme for Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals, one on alternatives to imprisonment. A strong partnership with Penal Reform International and the Thailand Institute of Justice led to synergies in the promotion of the Bangkok Rules.

72. On access to justice and legal aid, UNODC participated in an OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights regional round table on access to legal aid for Central Asian countries and provided detailed presentations on the new principles and guidelines. The Office also increased cooperation with UNDP, including by developing a joint proposal for a global study on legal aid delivery through a desk review and the development of a survey, for which funding is now sought.

73. In the area of justice for children, UNODC is an active member of the Inter-agency Panel on Juvenile Justice and its Steering Committee, through which relevant United Nations standards and norms were disseminated at the national, regional and international levels. UNODC cooperated with UNICEF, OHCHR and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children in developing draft model strategies and practical measures for the elimination of violence against children in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 68/189. UNODC and UNICEF promoted existing joint tools and cooperated at the country level in the development of joint programmes and the delivery of training activities to enhance justice for children. The Office also strengthened its cooperation with the European Union by providing substantive advice as a member of the steering group for the study to collect data on children's involvement in administrative, civil and criminal judicial proceedings in the 27 member States of the European Union and Croatia.

VII. Conclusions and recommendations

74. During the reporting period, UNODC supported important normative developments in the areas of crime prevention and criminal justice reform: the revision of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners and the development of model strategies and practical measures for the elimination of violence against children in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice. In parallel, UNODC strengthened its promotion of the use and application of the standards and norms through the provision of technical assistance in an increasing

number of countries, based on its continued work on data collection and analysis and tool development.

75. Given the central role of the standards and norms in guiding Member States' efforts to develop and implement crime prevention and criminal justice policies and programmes, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice may wish to:

(a) Recommend that Member States:

(i) Recognize the importance of security, justice and the rule of law as enabling conditions and as integral parts of sustainable and equitable growth, and include justice and security goals, targets and indicators in the post-2015 development framework;

(ii) Include crime prevention and criminal justice reform in national development plans, the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, poverty reduction strategy papers and related budgets and funding systems;

(iii) Continue to support the role of UNODC in promoting crime prevention and criminal justice reform in post-conflict and crisis situations and to provide extrabudgetary financial resources for the co-location of staff in the global focal point and UNODC participation in joint missions and programmes;

(iv) Adopt and implement long-term crime prevention and criminal justice reform programmes, plans and strategies that are knowledge-based and multisectoral, cutting across ministries and engaging public participation, to ensure the full implementation of existing standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice reform;

(v) Include such programmes, plans and strategies in national development plans and national budgets, setting specific targets and objectives for crime reduction, crime prevention and reintegration of offenders and victims;

(vi) Use and apply relevant UNODC tools, such as handbooks, training materials and model laws, when developing and implementing crime prevention and criminal justice reform strategies, policies and programmes;

(vii) Consider requesting the technical assistance of UNODC when embarking on the development and implementation of crime prevention and criminal justice reform strategies, policies and programmes, including by funding such assistance nationally;

(viii) Provide financial and technical support for UNODC technical assistance for the implementation of the standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, as well as for their further development or revision, in order to reflect new advances in crime prevention and criminal justice practices;

(b) Recommend that UNODC:

(i) Continue to act as a centre of expertise on crime prevention and criminal justice issues in the United Nations system;

(ii) In its responses to counter illicit drugs and crime, make full use of and promote the implementation of the standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice;

(iii) Continue to develop guidance and technical assistance instruments, in particular learning tools such as training curricula and e-learning tools;

(iv) Strengthen its capacity to provide legal and technical assistance to Member States and regional entities in crime prevention and criminal justice matters;

(v) Include crime prevention and criminal justice reform as an essential pillar in all its national and regional integrated programmes, with the aim of ensuring sustainability and respect for human rights;

(vi) Continue to act as centre of expertise for data on and analysis of crime and criminal justice and, in that role, produce methodological guidance and international standards on data collection, such as the international classification of crime for statistical purposes, and other standard methodological tools for conducting victimization surveys.